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UTILITY PATENT APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL

(Only for new nonprovisional applications under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(b))

Attorney Docket No.	3922.43
First Inventor or Application Identifier	Leonard Frank
Title	ELECTRONIC DELIVERY OF ADMISSION TICKETS TO A PURCHASER
Express Mail Label No.	EJ593691755US

APPLICATION ELEMENTS

See MPEP chapter 600 concerning utility patent application contents.

1. * Fee Transmittal Form (e.g., PTO/SB/17)
(Submit an original and a duplicate for fee processing)
2. Specification [Total Pages **22**]
 - Descriptive title of the Invention
 - Cross References to Related Applications
 - Statement Regarding Fed sponsored R & D
 - Reference to Microfiche Appendix
 - Background of the Invention
 - Brief Summary of the Invention
 - Brief Description of the Drawings (if filed)
 - Detailed Description
 - Claim(s)
 - Abstract of the Disclosure
3. Drawing(s) (35 U.S.C. 113) [Total Sheets **4**]
4. Oath or Declaration [Total Pages **3**]
 - a. Newly executed (original or copy)
 - b. Copy from a prior application (37 C.F.R. § 1.63(d))
(for continuation/divisional with Box 16 completed)
 - i. DELETION OF INVENTOR(S)
Signed statement attached deleting inventor(s) named in the prior application, see 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.63(d)(2) and 1.33(b).

**NOTE FOR ITEMS 1 & 13: IN ORDER TO BE ENTITLED TO PAY SMALL ENTITY FEES, A SMALL ENTITY STATEMENT IS REQUIRED (37 C.F.R. § 1.27), EXCEPT IF ONE FILED IN A PRIOR APPLICATION IS RELIED UPON (37 C.F.R. § 1.28).*

16. If a CONTINUING APPLICATION, check appropriate box, and supply the requisite information below and in a preliminary amendment:

Continuation Divisional Continuation-in-part (CIP) of prior application No: _____

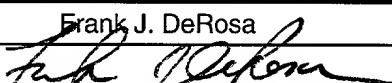
Prior application information: Examiner _____

Group / Art Unit: _____

For CONTINUATION or DIVISIONAL APPS only: The entire disclosure of the prior application, from which an oath or declaration is supplied under Box 4b, is considered a part of the disclosure of the accompanying continuation or divisional application and is hereby incorporated by reference. The incorporation can only be relied upon when a portion has been inadvertently omitted from the submitted application parts.

17. CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS

<input type="checkbox"/> Customer Number or Bar Code Label	(Insert Customer No. or Attach bar code label here)				or <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Correspondence address below
Name	Frank J. DeRosa				
	Brown Raysman Millstein Felder & Steiner LLP				
Address	120 West 45th Street				
City	New York	State	NY	Zip Code	10036
Country	USA	Telephone	(212) 944-1515	Fax	(212) 840-2429

Name (Print/Type)	Frank J. DeRosa	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	26,543
Signature			Date 11/29/99

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**STATEMENT BY A NON-INVENTOR SUPPORTING
A CLAIM BY ANOTHER FOR SMALL ENTITY STATUS**

Docket Number (Optional)

*3922.43*Applicant, Patentee, or Identifier: Leonard Frank et al.Application or Patent No.: To be assignedFiled or Issued: Concurrently herewithTitle: ELECTRONIC DELIVERY OF ADMISSION TICKETS DIRECT TO A PURCHASER

I hereby state that I am making this statement to support a claim by Cias, Inc. for small entity status for purposes of paying reduced fees to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, regarding the invention described in:

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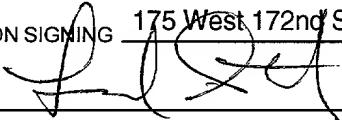
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I have not assigned, granted, conveyed or licensed and am under no obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey or license, any rights in the invention to any person who would not qualify as an independent inventor under 37 CFR 1.9(c) if that person had made the invention, or to any concern which would not qualify as a small business concern under 37 CFR 1.9(d) or a nonprofit organization under 37 CFR 1.9(e). Note: Separate statements are required from each person, concern or organization having rights to the invention to their status as small entities. (37 CFR 1.27)

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NAME OF PERSON SIGNING Leonard StorchTITLE IN ORGANIZATION OF PERSON SIGNING PresidentADDRESS OF PERSON SIGNING 175 West 172nd Street, #11F, New York, New York 10023SIGNATURE DATE 11/29/99

ELECTRONIC DELIVERY OF ADMISSION TICKETS DIRECT TO A PURCHASER

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The invention disclosed herein relates to electronic delivery of documents exchangeable for value (goods and/or services) such as counterfeit-resistant admission tickets, gift certificates,

5 coupons, vouchers and other documents directly to a location designated by the ordering party over an open network, such as the Internet or the telephone system.

Modern communications and open networks such as the Internet have made the purchase of admission tickets more convenient for individuals. For example, tickets can be ordered via the Internet, or from kiosks, or by telephone (voice or electronically). In response to information

10 provided by the ordering party, the ticketing company provides an admission ticket that is delivered by mail (or a delivery service), or to a kiosk, or provided for pick-up, e.g. at a box office. One drawback in these ticket purchasing procedures is that the purchaser must wait for the tickets to be delivered, or the purchaser must go to a kiosk to order, or the purchaser must pick up the ticket(s) at a designated location. While these order and delivery and pick-up procedures are 15 more or less secure, they are inconvenient to the purchaser. Purchasing gift certificates, which are frequently given during the year-end holiday season, can be a time-consuming and frustrating experience. In the case of coupons and vouchers, it would be convenient to be able to provide these interactively, for example while a PC user is surfing the Web, or through telemarketing, etc.

Applicant is unaware of any system which electronically delivers documents

20 exchangeable for value ordered or accepted by telephone or over the Internet other than as

described above. There is a need for a secure and more convenient, counterfeit-resistant document ordering and delivering system, which the invention provides.

OBJECTS AND SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

It is an object of the invention disclosed herein to provide a secure and convenient way to

5 order and obtain documents exchangeable for value such as admission tickets, gift certificates, coupons, vouchers, etc.

It is another object of the invention to provide such a way which enables an ordering party to order and receive such documents using conventional equipment now present in a typical household such as a PC linked to a communications network such as the telephone system or the

10 Internet, or a telephone, and a printer or fax machine.

The invention achieves the above and other objects in providing a method and system by which a first party orders a document exchangeable for value from a second party, and the second party electronically delivers the ordered document, which is counterfeit resistant, to the first party at a location designated by the first party. "Ordering" is meant in a broad sense herein, and

15 encompasses interactive situations where a document is offered (e.g., an unsolicited offer) by the second party and accepted by the first party. Electronic delivery may take different forms, some of which are described herein.

In a preferred embodiment, electronic delivery comprises the second party providing electronic information to the first party's equipment via the network from which the first party's

20 equipment can produce a hard, countefeiit-reisistant copy of the ordered document.

For example, the document may be electronically ordered using a PC, and electronic information defining at least part of the document is provided to the PC, from which equipment coupled to the PC can produce the hard copy of the document. For example, a printer coupled to the PC may print the document. Alternatively, the electronic information may be provided to a 5 fax machine designated by the ordering party. Still further, the document may be ordered by telephone and electronically delivered to a PC or fax machine designated by the ordering party.

The document may be made counterfeit resistant by assigning unique information to each document of a given type, e.g., admission tickets for a given activity or event or date, and checking the uniqueness of a document prior to allowing it to be exchanged for value. Such 10 counterfeit resistant techniques are exemplified by the following U.S. patents: 3,833,795; 3,824,544; 4,463,250; and 5,283,422

For example, a unique serial number or other unique alphanumeric information may be assigned to each document of a given type, e.g., admission tickets for a given activity or event, which is printed on the document in machine readable form. The unique information is checkable 15 or evaluable to determine its uniqueness and thereby to determine whether the document might be counterfeit.

In the preferred embodiment, an ordering party using a PC orders a document exchangeable for value via the Internet from a vendor's Website. The vendor delivers the document electronically to the ordering party's PC (e.g., provides information for printing the 20 ordered document to the PC) from which the ordering party can print the document on paper normally used by the ordering party (or other media). The ticket vendor provides the unique

information and in addition, other information. For example, in the case of an admission ticket, such other information may include the venue, the particular activity or event, the date of the activity or event, and if a reserved seat, unique seat information for the activity or event. The unique information and certain other information are delivered to the ordering party's designated 5 location. The document can be printed at the same location at which the information is initially received or the information can be re-transmitted to another location designated by the ordering party for printing.

The unique information may be checked in different ways. In the preferred embodiment, the unique information is stored in a database, and information obtained from the document is 10 checked against the database, and/or information read from documents is stored in a database and the database checked to determine whether the information was previously read from another document. In other embodiments, the uniqueness can be initially read from the document and tested for conformance or compliance using an algorithm, or by comparing the information read from the document to information generated from an algorithm.

15 The unique information may be information generated according to a detectable series such as alphanumeric serial numbers, or information generated by an algorithm (secret or non-secret), or random information, etc.

“Machine readable” is intended to have a broad meaning, including optical reading (e.g. bar code scanning, OCR, infrared, white light, etc.), magnetic (e.g. magnetic tape, magnetic strip, 20 magnetic disc), transponder (interrogation and response using, rf, for example), rf reflection, tuned

tuned rf circuits, electronic (e.g., from a smart card type device, electronic memory), direct contact or otherwise, etc.

Activity and event are used herein in a broad sense and encompass live and pre-recorded performances, sporting games and matches, parks, zoos, fairs, museums, exhibitions, seminars, 5 etc. "Counterfeit-resistant" is meant in a broad sense and includes various ways to authenticate the document based on the document itself, although this may be combined with other techniques such as requiring identification or validation of the document bearer.

In a specific embodiment, a user using a user device orders a document from a supplier's device over the open communications network without any requirement for a prior or existing 10 relationship between the user and the supplier except, if appropriate, a relationship by which the user pays the supplier for the document such as provided by a credit card. Unique information is assigned to the document prior to, during or after ordering thereof. At least information relating to the document and the unique information are electronically transmitted from the at least one supplier's device to a device designated by the user who ordered the document, and the document 15 is printed by a user device with at least the information relating to the document and, in a machine readable form, the unique information.

As mentioned, in the preferred embodiment, the communications network is the Internet, the user device is a PC and the supplier device is a server. However, the user device may comprise a telephone in addition to or in lieu of the PC, and a fax machine in addition to or in lieu 20 of the PC and the printer.

The user PC, printer, telephone and fax machine may be located at the same user site, or they may be located at two or more sites. Also, a user PC may communicate with another device at the user site or at another site which prints or effects printing of the document. Thus, the user PC (user devices) may directly or indirectly effect printing.

5 With the printing quality provided by low cost ink jet printers, tickets, gift certificates and other documents can be printed using the invention which resemble tickets issued by a venue box office or by mail, and gift certificates purchased at a store or through the mail. In addition, where box office tickets are printed on stiffer stock, a suitable printer may be used to print on such stiffer stock if desired. Thus, tickets, gift certificates and other documents can be printed which 10 resemble documents issued conventionally, and which are counterfeit resistant and can be delivered electronically directly to the person who ordered them.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The invention is illustrated in the figures of the accompanying drawings which are meant to be exemplary and not limiting, in which like references in the different figures refer to like or 15 corresponding parts, and in which:

Fig. 1 shows a pair of admission tickets that include unique information printed thereon in a machine readable form, namely a linear bar code;

Fig. 2 is a block diagram of embodiments for ordering and delivering a ticket over a computer network according to the invention;

20 Fig. 3 is a block diagram of one embodiment for verifying an admission ticket at an event according to the invention; and

Fig. 4 is a block diagram of an alternate embodiment for ordering and delivery of a document over a communications network in accordance with the invention.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

The preferred embodiment of the invention is described in connection with admission

5 tickets to activities, events, etc. However, as discussed above, application of the invention is not limited to admission tickets, but also to documents such as gift certificates, coupons, vouchers, etc., and to other documents as will be apparent to others after reading this patent.

Fig. 1 depicts two admission tickets 10a and 10b electronically delivered and printed in accordance with invention. Each ticket 10a and 10b may include in human readable form 10 information 11 identifying things like the venue, the event or activity, the date of the event or activity or the date for which admission to the venue is good, and information about the venue or event, etc., and advertising, etc. If the venue and event or activity have seats which are uniquely identified (e.g., by section, level, aisle, row, seat number, etc.), seat information 12a and 12b may also appear on the ticket in human-readable form for convenience in seating the ticket holder in 15 the right seat. Tickets 10a and 10b are similar: ticket 10a is for seat 103 while ticket 10b is for seat 104.

In addition, each ticket 10a and 10b includes unique information 14a and 14b (Fig. 1). The unique information 14a and 14b can be any information, as described above, or can be based on, derived from or include, unique seat information for a particular venue (e.g., section, level, 20 aisle, row and seat number). The information may be generated in any suitable manner, e.g., using an algorithm.

The unique information 14a, 14b may include in whole or part information such as serial numbers, random numbers and numbers generated from known or secret algorithms or the like, check digits, CRC numbers, Reed Solomon, Hamming codes or the like for error control, or any combination thereof. These and other ways may be used to generate the unique information 14a,

5 14b since how the unique information 14a, 14b is produced or arrived at is not critical. The purpose of the unique information herein to is to uniquely identify each ticket in machine-readable form for security purposes as described below. The unique printed indicia or verification code information 14a, 14b is provided on the ticket in a machine-readable form, as described above. In addition, human readable, i.e., legible, information 16a, 16b corresponding to 14a, 14b
10 respectively may be printed on tickets 10a, 10b, for example, as shown in Fig. 1.

The tickets 10a and 10b are printed on media typically available to a PC user. For example, the tickets 10a and 10b may be printed on ordinary paper typically used for laser jet or ink jet printing in color or black and white. Alternatively, special media may be used, e.g., similar to media now provided for printing checks. The media can be entirely blank, or contain some pre-
15 printing thereon. At least the information 14a, 14b and certain other information is not pre- provided on the media but is provided in accordance with the invention. The tickets 10a and 10b may also include graphics, such as the logo of a sports team, etc.

Fig. 2 depicts a system 30 by which a document such as a ticket 10a, 10b can be ordered from a vendor's computer 32 over a communications network 34 using a PC 36 (or network
20 device) which can access the vendor computer 32 over the network 34. In the preferred embodiment, the communications network 34 is the Internet, and the vendor computer 32 is a

server that is part of a Website 50 on the World Wide Web. The PC 36 is located at an Internet user site 38, such as a home, office, library, school, lobby, restaurant, etc. The Internet user site 38 includes in addition to (or as part of) the PC 36, a keyboard 42, a mouse 44, a monitor 46, and a printer 48. The user site 38 also includes a connection device (not shown) to the Internet such as 5 a modem, etc. In addition to the ticket vendor computer 32, the ticket vendor Website 50 includes or has access to a database 52 at least for ticket information. The database 52, or another database, may store financial and customer information, as well as other information. Security for preventing unauthorized entry into the database(s) may be provided as known in the art.

In operation, an Internet user accesses a vendor Website 50 using a PC 36 in the usual 10 manner. The user can order a ticket similar to the way that users now order tickets, merchandise or services. The vendor web site 50 may provide a form into which a user inputs information for ordering a ticket. The vendor web site 50 may also provide venue, event and seat selection information to assist a user in placing an order. In the case of uniquely numbered seats (reserved 15 seats), the vendor Website indicates the available seats, or rejects an order for seats already ordered. For example, the PC user may be given limited access to the database to obtain venue, date, seat, etc. information over an open network, while preventing any alteration of the database. The order may be placed over the Internet or via a secure network, e.g., by telephone or fax.

Where payment is required, before, during or after placement of an order, the user 20 provides for payment in accordance with a mode accepted by the vendor, e.g., house account, credit, debit or smart card. The vendor's Website 50 processes the information as is known in the art to obtain authorization for the payment method.

Security for safeguarding a transaction conducted entirely over the Internet is known in the art.

The vendor's Website 50 preferably provides a print preview of a ticket 10a or 10b to the PC 36 to be displayed on the monitor 46 for confirmation of the information (i.e. seat location, date, event, etc.) prior to completing the order. After acceptance by the user of the preview ticket and/or ticket information, the vendor's Website transmits information needed to print a ticket to the user site 38. Prior to the actual printing of the ticket(s) a confirmation number may be provided to the PC 36 for display on the monitor 46 for the user to manually record (or print) for future use. This confirmation number may be useful in the event that a printer failure occurs and the ticket transaction must be voided in the database or reordered. A second attempt may be made for printing a new ticket(s) with the same or different unique information 14a, 14b imprinted thereon. The voided transaction would be recorded e.g., in the database 52, for future reference in the case of fraud by the user.

The vendor's Website 50 may subsequently seek acknowledgment from the user PC 36 that the ticket information was successfully received and/or printed. A delayed or deferred printing option may be selected for downloading ticket information or for printing the ticket(s) at a later time, or for delivery at another designated location. A personal identification number and/or confirmation number may be required before any ticket information can be downloaded. The ticket is delivered as described above. Confirmation may be by voice.

Referring to Fig. 3, a venue admission system 60 includes at least one input device 62 which machine reads the unique information 14a, 14b. The input device 62, such as a bar code

scanner, communicates with a venue computer 64 for inputting the data read from the ticket 10a and 10b. This machine-read data is evaluated by the venue computer 64, alone or in cooperation with the vendor database 52 and/or a venue database 66. The venue computer 64 provides for a visual or audible signal at the location of the input device 62 and/or at a gate or entrance 65 by

- 5 which venue personnel determine whether to allow entry, i.e., the ticket is at this time presumed valid or there is some problem. This verification process takes place in real time so that the verification is substantially instantaneous.

After verification and validation of each ticket, each ticket holder is admitted into the event or activity through entrance 65. After a ticket 10a and 10b has been used for admission to 10 an event or activity, the venue database 66 and/or vendor database 52 are updated to indicate that a ticket 10a or 10b has been presented for admission. The updating of the venue database 66 and/or vendor database 52 of vendor's Website 50 after verification of a ticket will minimize or substantially eliminate unauthorized admission to an event with a copied or duplicated ticket.

If in the event that the ticket becomes damaged or folded thereby rendering it 15 mechanically unreadable, the legible unique printed indicia or verification code 16a, 16b may be manually input by a keyboard 68 into the database, and if accepted, over-ride the mechanical reader and allows entry.

Fig. 3 shows a vendor's Website 50 and a venue admission system 60, and both a vendor computer 32 and a vendor database 52, and a venue computer 64 and a venue database 66. The 20 venue computer and database and the vendor computer and database can be combined. For Internet use, a vendor server can be used in addition to the combined computer.

Security for the system described herein relies on the following: that the unique machine readable bar code information printed on a valid or authorized document must also be stored in a vendor's or venue's authenticating computer database or associated device, associated apparatus or the like, or confirmable or reproducible from an algorithm, etc., so that upon presentation for admission or exchange, the document's bar coded information may be scanned or machine read and the information obtained from that reading is compared via an associated communication apparatus to the stored information obtained from or in the vendor's or venue's database or checked against the algorithm, etc. If a non-match occurs, it indicates a faulty document or faulty reading or that the document is counterfeit. If the information from the reading does match with stored or referenced information, that reading's information may also be checked in the database to determine whether that same reading's information has been read previously from another document, or to determine if that same reading's information is known to be associated with another document somewhere else. In either of these cases, it can be concluded that at least one document has been duplicated without authorization (e.g., is a counterfeit) or through a system error, etc. Subsequent investigation at the venue or elsewhere may be used to determine which document or documents are unauthorized and to take action against the holder of any unauthorized document. Security resides in the fact that two or more documents having the same machine-readable information imprinted thereon means that one or more of them is unauthorized. Minimally, admission for the document holder or completion of the transaction for the suspect document may then be held up while venue or store personnel or authorities investigate.

In an embodiment in which the document is a gift certificate, the certificate is ordered and delivered generally as described above. In addition to the unique information 14a, 14b, information may be provided which gives the value of the certificate and identifies and possibly describes the store. All of the information provided on a gift certificate sold at a store can be 5 provided electronically, so that when printed, the gift certificate closely resembles a store certificate, given the quality of color ink jet printers now available at low cost.

Coupons and vouchers may be ordered and delivered in a similar manner. The ordering may result from an offer of a coupon or voucher that is accepted by a PC user while visiting a Web site, or by a participant in a survey, etc.

10 In an alternate embodiment illustrated in broken lines in Fig. 2, a document may be ordered over the Internet using the PC 36 as described above, and delivered by the vendor over the telephone system 34a to a fax machine 54 designated by the user. Ordering of documents over the Internet, and fax delivery of documents is known in the art and therefore will not be described further herein. Fig. 4 illustrates another alternate embodiment in which a document 15 may be ordered by telephone and/or printed on a fax machine. The user site 38a includes a telephone 55 and the fax machine 54, and may or may not include a PC 36 and PC peripherals 42, 44, 46 and 48 (as shown in Fig. 2). The vendor site 50a includes interactive voice response ("IVR") equipment 56 and a vendor computer 32a. A user orders a document using the telephone 55, the voice equipment 56 and the vendor computer 32a. The vendor site 50a delivers the 20 ordered document to the user fax machine 54 or the user PC 36 (if present). Telemarketing

including IVR equipment is known in the art and therefore will not be described further herein.

The user may also order over the Internet 34 as described above.

While the invention has been described and illustrated in connection with preferred embodiments, many variations and modifications, as will be apparent to those of skill in the art, 5 may be made without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention. The invention as set forth in the appended claims is thus not limited to the precise details of construction set forth above as such variations and modifications are intended to be included within the spirit and scope of the invention as set forth in the defined claims.

CLAIMS

1. A method for first party users of an open communications network to obtain counterfeit resistant documents from at least one supplier of the documents over the open communications network, the at least one supplier having a device coupled to the network and 5 each user having a device by which the user can communicate with the at least one supplier's device over the communications network, comprising:

a user using a user device ordering a document from the at least one supplier's device over the open communications network;

assigning unique information to the document prior to, during or after ordering thereof;

10 10 electronically transmitting from the at least one supplier's device at least information relating to the document and the unique information to a device designated by the user who ordered the document and from which, directly or indirectly, printing transmitted information can be effected on a medium; and

printing on the medium at least the information relating to the document and, in a machine 15 readable form, the unique information, the printed medium constituting the ordered document.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein the document is an admission ticket, and wherein the step of electronically transmitting information relating to the document comprises transmitting information relating to at least one of the event or activity to which the ticket provides admission, the date of the event or activity, the venue for the event or activity and seat information, and 20 wherein the printing step comprises printing such information on the medium.

3. The method of claim 1 wherein the document is a gift certificate, and wherein the step of electronically transmitting information relating to the document comprises transmitting information relating to the amount of the gift certificate and the name of an establishment at which the gift certificate can be redeemed, and wherein the printing step comprises printing such information on the medium.

4. The method of claim 1 wherein the network is the Internet, the user device is a PC and the supplier device is a server.

5. The method of claim 4 wherein the document is an admission ticket, and wherein the step of electronically transmitting information relating to the document comprises transmitting information relating to at least one of the event or activity to which the ticket provides admission, the date of the event or activity, the venue for the event or activity and seat information, and wherein the printing step comprises printing such information on the medium.

6. The method of claim 4 wherein the document is a gift certificate, and wherein the step of electronically transmitting information relating to the document comprises transmitting information relating to the amount of the gift certificate and the name of an establishment at which the gift certificate can be redeemed, and wherein the printing step comprises printing such information on the medium.

7. The method of claim 1 wherein the ordering, assigning, transmitting and printing steps are effected without any requirement for a prior or existing relationship between the user and the supplier except, if appropriate, a relationship by which the user pays the supplier for the document.

8. The method of claim 7 wherein the user has a credit card and including the step of the supplier charging the user's credit card for the ordered document.

9. The method of claim 1 wherein the user device comprises a telephone and the ordering step includes use of a keypad on the telephone to order the document.

5 10. The method of claim 1 wherein the transmitting step comprises transmitting the information to a fax machine designated by the user, and the printing step comprises the fax machine printing on the medium.

11. A method for first party users of the Internet to obtain counterfeit resistant admission tickets from at least one supplier of the tickets over the Internet, the at least one 10 supplier having a device coupled to the Internet and each user having a device by which the user can communicate with the at least one supplier's device over the Internet, comprising:
a user using a user device ordering a ticket from the at least one supplier's device over the Internet;
assigning unique information to the ticket prior to, during or after ordering thereof;
15 electronically transmitting from the at least one supplier's device at least information relating to at least one of the event or activity to which the ticket provides admission, the date of the event or activity, the venue for the event or activity and seat information, and the unique information to a device designated by the user who ordered the ticket and from which, directly or indirectly, printing transmitted information can be effected on a medium; and
20 printing such information on the medium, with at least the unique information being printed in a machine readable form, the printed medium constituting the ordered ticket.

12. The method of claim 11 wherein each user also has a printer coupled to the user device by which the user can print information transmitted from the at least one supplier's device over the Internet, and wherein the printing step comprises the user's printer printing on the medium.

5 13. The method of claim 11 wherein the ordering, assigning, transmitting and printing steps are effected without any requirement for a prior or existing relationship between the user and the supplier except, if appropriate, a relationship by which the user pays the supplier for the ordered ticket.

10 14. The method of claim 13 wherein the user has a credit card and including the step of the supplier charging the user's credit card for the ordered ticket.

15. The method of claim 11 wherein the transmitting step comprises transmitting the information to a fax machine designated by the user, and the printing step comprises the fax machine printing on the medium.

16. A method for first party users of the Internet to obtain counterfeit resistant admission tickets from at least one supplier of the tickets over the Internet, the at least one supplier having a server coupled to the Internet and each user having a PC by which the user can communicate with the at least one supplier's device over the Internet and a printer coupled to the user PC, comprising:

20 a user using a user PC ordering a ticket from the at least one supplier's server over the Internet;

assigning unique information to the ticket prior to, during or after ordering thereof;

electronically transmitting from the at least one supplier's server at least information relating to at least one of the event or activity to which the ticket provides admission, the date of the event or activity, the venue for the event or activity and seat information, and the unique information to the PC of the user who ordered the ticket; and

5 the user's printer printing such information on a medium, with at least the unique information being printed in a machine readable form, the printed medium constituting the ordered ticket.

17. The method of claim 16 wherein the ordering, assigning, transmitting and printing steps are effected without any requirement for a prior or existing relationship between the user and
10 the supplier except, if appropriate, a relationship by which the user pays the supplier for the ordered ticket.

18. The method of claim 17 wherein the user has a credit card and including the step of the supplier charging the user's credit card for the ordered ticket.

19. A system for first party users of an open communications network to obtain
15 counterfeit resistant documents from at least one supplier of the documents over the open communications network, comprising:
a plurality of supplier devices coupled to the network;
a plurality of user devices coupled to the network by which a user can communicate with a selected supplier's device over the network, each user also having a printer by which the user can
20 print information received over the network from the at least one supplier's device;

the supplier device being programmed to provide unique information to a document ordered by a user prior to, during or after ordering thereof and to electronically transmit over the network at least information relating to the document and the unique information to a device designated by the user who ordered the document in a form suitable to be printed on a medium,

5 the user device directly or indirectly effecting printing of the document.

20. The system of claim 19 wherein the document is an admission ticket, and wherein the supplier's device is programmed to transmit information relating to at least one of the event or activity to which the ticket provides admission, the date of the event or activity, the venue for the event or activity and seat information, and wherein the user device is capable of effecting printing

10 of such information on the medium.

21. The system of claim 19 wherein the document is a gift certificate, and wherein the supplier's device is programmed to transmit information relating to the amount of the gift certificate and the name of an establishment at which the gift certificate can be redeemed, and wherein the user device is capable of effecting printing of such information on the medium.

15 22. The method of claim 19 wherein the network is the Internet, the user device is a PC, the supplier device is a server and comprising a user printed coupled to the PC which prints on the medium under control of the PC.

23. The system of claim 19 wherein the document is an admission ticket, and wherein the supplier's device is programmed to transmit information relating to at least one of the event or 20 activity to which the ticket provides admission, the date of the event or activity, the venue for the

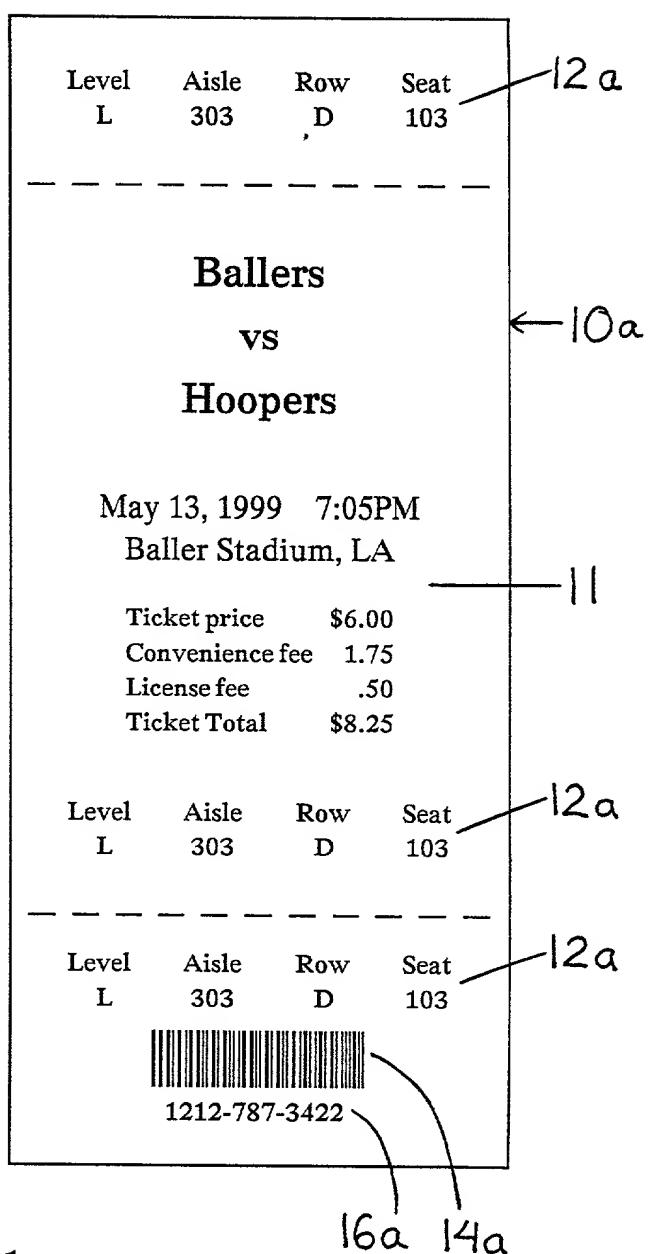
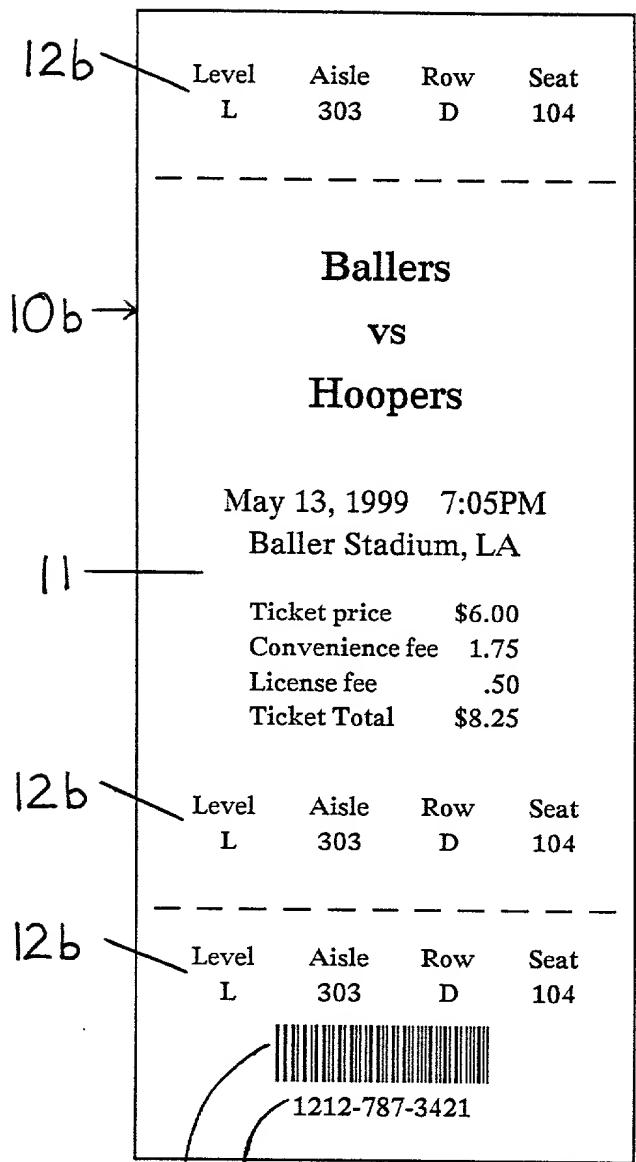


Fig. 1

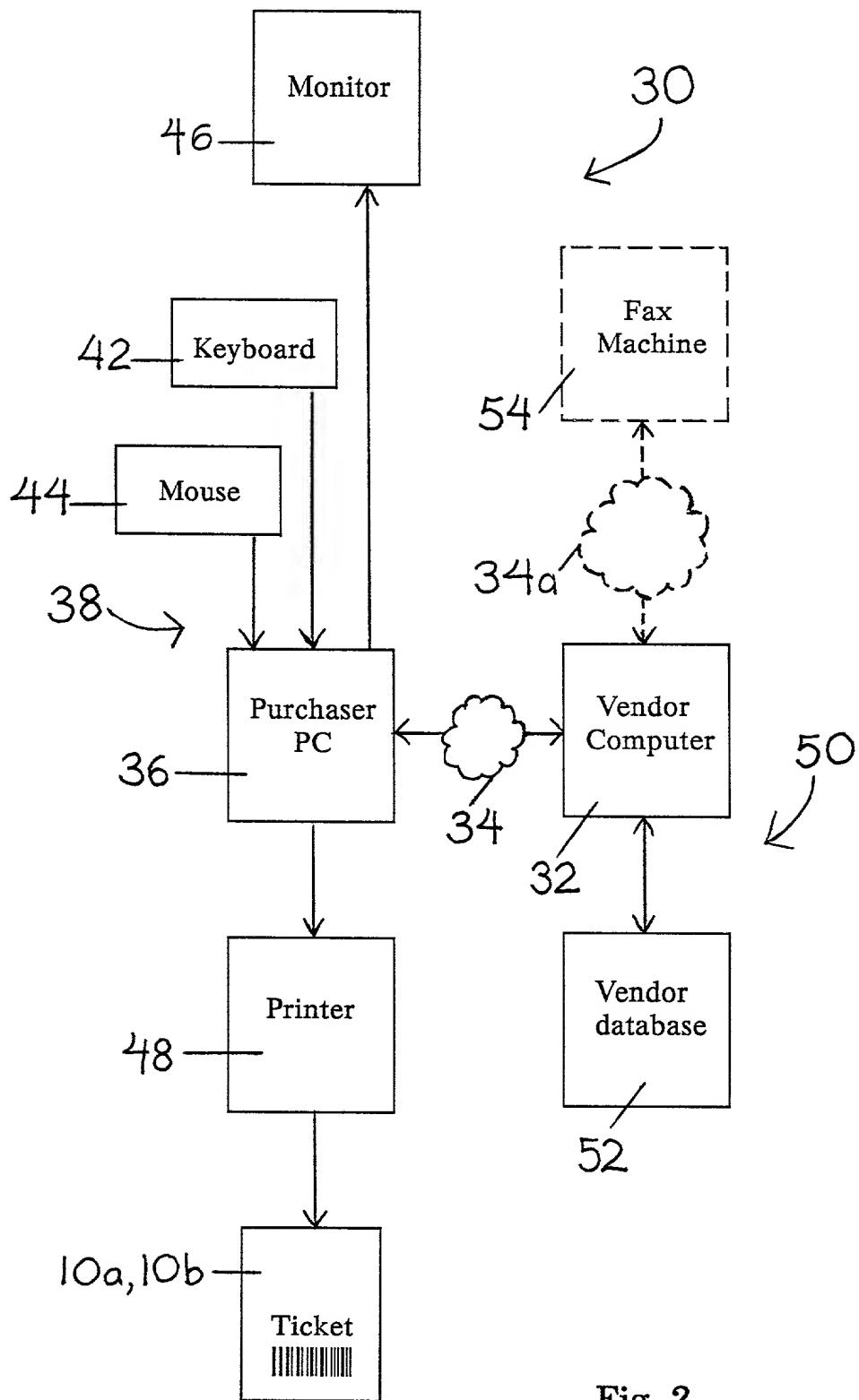


Fig. 2

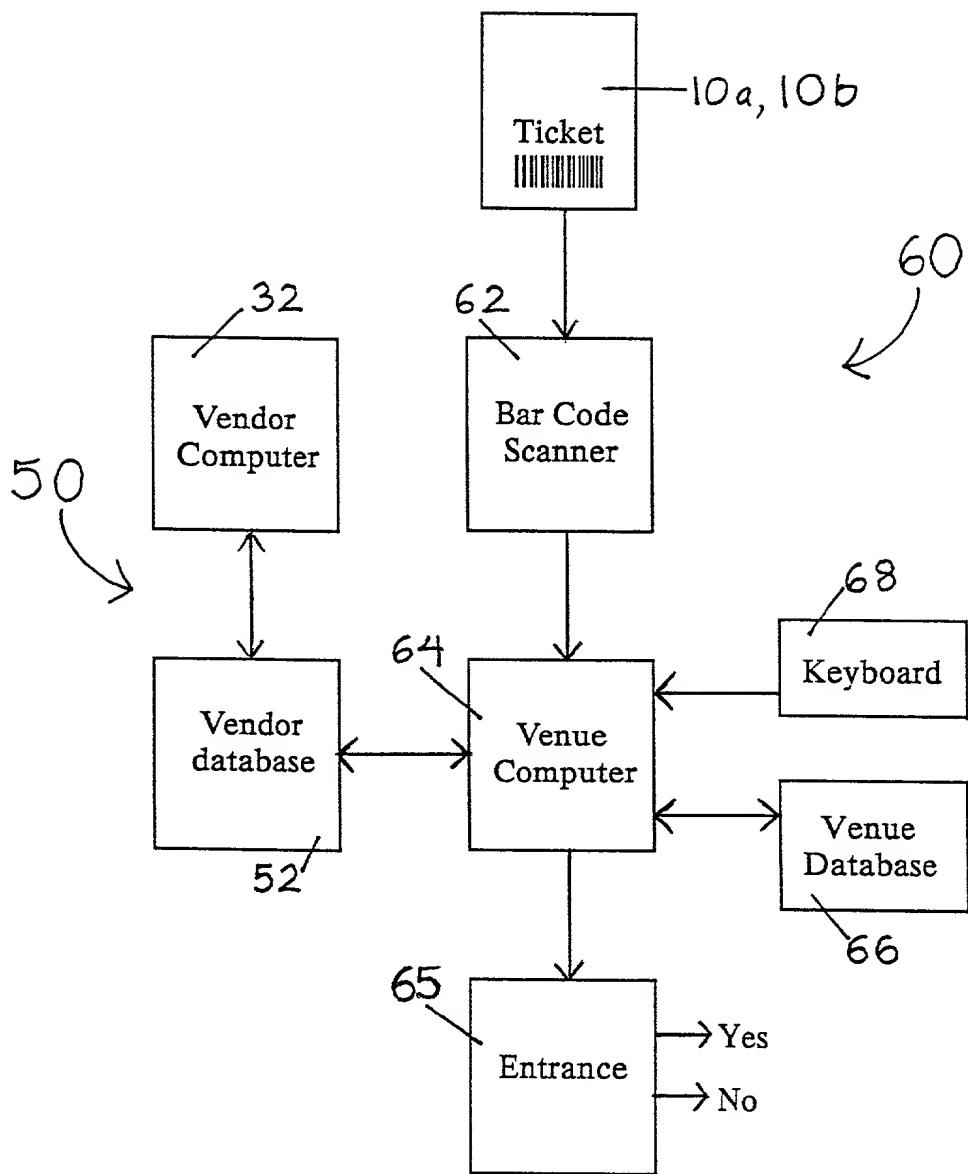


Fig. 3

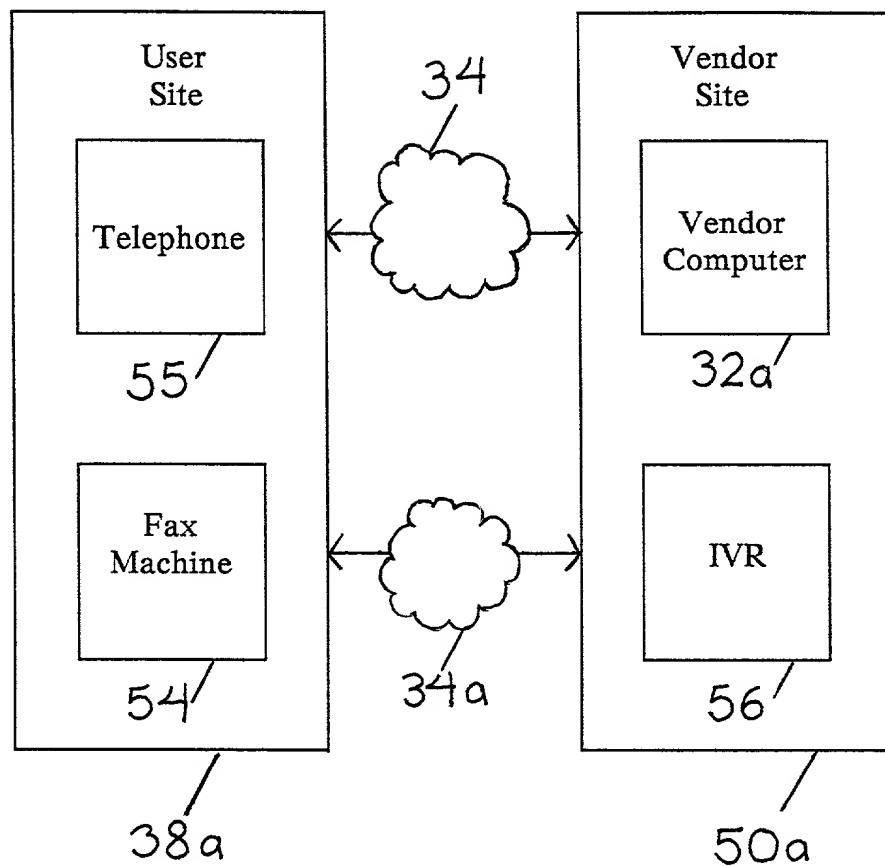


Fig. 4

**DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY
FOR PATENT APPLICATION**

(COMPLETE IF KNOWN)

Application Number	To be assigned
Filing Date	Herewith
Group Art Unit	To be assigned
Examiner	Not yet known

Attorney Docket Number	3922.43
First Named Inventor	Frank

This declaration is *(check one)*:

submitted with initial filing;
 submitted after initial filing;
 a supplemental declaration.

This application is of the following type:

utility;
 design;
 national stage of PCT;
 divisional, continuation or continuation-in-part.

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (*if only one name is listed below*) or an original, first and joint inventor (*if plural names are listed below*) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled

**ELECTRONIC DELIVERY OF ADMISSION TICKETS
DIRECT TO A PURCHASER**

the specification of which: *(check one)*

is attached hereto; or
 was filed on _____ as U.S. Application Serial No. _____ / _____ and is/was amended on _____ (*if applicable*);
 was described and claimed in PCT International Application No. _____, filed on _____ and was amended under PCT Article 19 on _____ (*if applicable*).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56.

I hereby identify below, and where indicated claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code §§ 119(a)-(d) or §§ 365(a)-(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or of any PCT international application(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America, filed within 12 months (6 months for design) prior to this application, and have also identified below any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's

certificate or any PCT international application(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America filed by me on the same subject matter having a filing date before that of the application(s) on which priority is claimed (if any):

Foreign/PCT Application Number	Country	Filing Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	Priority Claimed	
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, §119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below (if any):

Provisional Application No.	Filing Date

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, § 120 of any United States application(s), or § 365(c) of any PCT International Application designating the United States of America listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States or PCT international application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

U.S./PCT Parent Application No.	Filing Date	Status (<i>Patented, Pending, or Abandoned</i>)

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) or agent(s) with full power of substitution and revocation to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith:

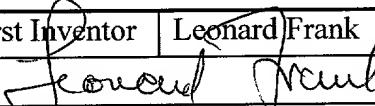
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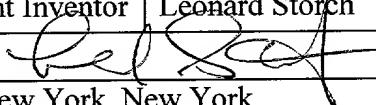
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Residence		Citizenship	
Post Office Address			

Full Name of Fourth Joint Inventor			
Inventor's Signature		Date	
Residence		Citizenship	
Post Office Address			

(check one) Sheets containing additional joint inventors are, are not attached hereto.
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